IN THE CLAIMS

The claims are not amended herein but are included as a convenience.

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

providing to a first switching node information indicating a number of connections required between a second switching node and a plurality of terminal devices; and

determining based on said provided information a number of connections to be set up between said first switching node and said second switching node of a data network to set up a broadcast or multicast transmission for a broadcast or multicast service to the plurality of terminal devices.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said number of connections to be set up between said first and second switching nodes is determined to be equal to said number of connections indicated by said provided information.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said broadcast or multicast transmission is a multimedia service transmission, said first switching node is a gateway general packet radio services support node, and said second switching node is a serving general packet radio services support node.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim I, wherein said connections are tunnel connections.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said providing comprises setting up an initial connection between said first and second switching nodes, and transmitting said information from said second switching node to said first switching node in response to a request of said first switching node.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 5, wherein said information is transmitted in a response message to a context activation request.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein said information is transmitted in a response message to an identification request issued by said first switching node.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7, wherein a context activation for said determined number of connections is requested by said first switching node in response to the receipt of said response message.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7, wherein a context activation for said determined number of connections is requested by said second switching node after the transmission of said response message.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said providing comprises storing said information in a memory table accessible by said first switching node.

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11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said providing comprises performing a query to an address server using an identification information or an area identification information of said broadcast or multicast transmission.

12. (Previously Presented) A system, comprising:

a first switching node; and

a second switching node,

wherein the first switching node is configured to set up an initial connection to said second switching node,

wherein said second switching node is configured to transmit to said first switching node via an initial connection information indicating a number of connections required between said second switching node and a plurality of terminal devices, and

wherein said first switching node is configured to determine based on said provided information a number of connections to be set up between said first switching node and said second switching node to set up a broadcast or multicast transmission for a broadcast or multicast service to said plurality of terminal devices.

13. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein said first switching node is a gateway general packet radio services support node and said second switching node is a serving general packet radio services support node.

14. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein said second switching node is configured to transmit said information in a response message to a context activation request issued by said first switching node.

15. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein said second switching node is configured to transmit said information in a response message to a identification request issued by said first switching node.

16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

at least one processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code,

wherein the at least one memory and the computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to:

access a memory table in order to derive information indicating a number of connections required between a switching node and a plurality of terminal devices, and

determine based on said derived information a number of connections to be set up to said switching node to set up a broadcast or multicast transmission for one multicast/broadcast multimedia service to said plurality of terminal devices.

17. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

at least one processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code,

wherein the at least one memory and the computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to:

query, using a multicast identification or a multicast area identification, from an address server information indicating a number of connections required between said a switching node and a plurality of terminal devices, and

determine based on said queried information a number of connections to be set up to said switching node to set up a broadcast or multicast transmission for one multicast/broadcast multimedia service to said plurality of terminal devices.

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said address server is a domain name service.

19. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said switching node is a gateway general packet radio services support node.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said switching node is a gateway general packet radio services support node.